

## Evaluating Your Assessment Strategies and Tools

The exercise below can assist you in focusing on the key aspects of assessment you are required to address in your BEST portfolio. Evaluate your assessments by identifying where on the continuum you fall for each item below. Then list 2 or 3 examples as “evidence” to justify your decision and share your assessments and your answers to this exercise with your mentor or content colleague.

*These characteristics reflect a more developed portfolio*

*These characteristics reflect a less developed portfolio*

1. My assessments were aligned clearly with the conceptual focus for this unit and match my instructional goals.		The match between my assessments and my unit’s conceptual focus or unit goals may be difficult for someone else to see.
Examples:		
2. My assessments required students to use some essential social studies skills.		My assessments focused primarily on my students’ ability to identify or summarize information they learned from me or from their class materials.
Examples:		
3. My assessments matched my students’ abilities and instructional needs as described in Part A of my portfolio.		My assessments were too hard or too easy given my students’ abilities and instructional needs as described in Part A of my portfolio.
Examples:		
4. I clearly communicated my assessment criteria to my students in writing as well as orally.		I expected my students to know or remember my assessment criteria without giving them written guidelines or a verbal reminder.
Examples:		
5. My assessment criteria were based on quality of work rather than solely procedural aspects and/or included models of this quality work..		My assessment criteria solely focused on procedural aspects (such as completeness, number of paragraphs/responses required, etc.).
Examples:		
6. My feedback was specific, detailed and/or instructional (e.g., including some follow-up questions).		My feedback consisted solely of general comments, check marks, or scores.
Examples:		